For Immediate Release: October 28, 2019 Contact: Brian Rothgery, 414-278-4230

Supervisor Taylor Calls for 'Purple Alert' to Quickly Locate Victims of Domestic Violence

MILWAUKEE – Supervisor Sequanna Taylor is calling on the State of Wisconsin to create a "Purple Alert" to expedite the process of filing a missing person report for victims of domestic violence and enlist the public in locating individuals who may be missing, injured, or vulnerable.

Taylor will introduce her <u>resolution</u> at the meeting of the Health and Human Needs Committee on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>October 28</u>, at 9:00 am.

"A Purple Alert system would save lives and by making it easier to quickly locate victims of domestic violence. With every hour that passes, a missing person becomes more vulnerable, so reducing the amount of time a loved one must wait to file a report is essential to the health and safety of someone who may be in harms way. Speeding up this process will save lives. With incidents of domestic violence on the rise during the Coronavirus pandemic, this alert system is needed now more than ever," said Taylor.

Similar to an Amber Alert for missing children, a Green Alert for veterans, or a Silver Alert for missing seniors, the Purple Alert would reduce the amount of time that must elapse before a concerned individual can complete a missing person's report when the missing person is a victim of domestic violence. The alert would also notify the public of the missing person and secure the support of the community in locating the missing individual.

There are currently no states that employ a Purple Alert system for missing or endangered victims of domestic violence. If enacted, Wisconsin would be the first state to use such an alert.

Taylor previously announced her initiative for the Purple Alert at a press conference hosted by the City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention on Wednesday, October 14, at the Love without Violence Conference.

Taylor's resolution reaffirms that Milwaukee County will recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness month. A <u>2016 resolution</u> from Taylor also recognized October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.